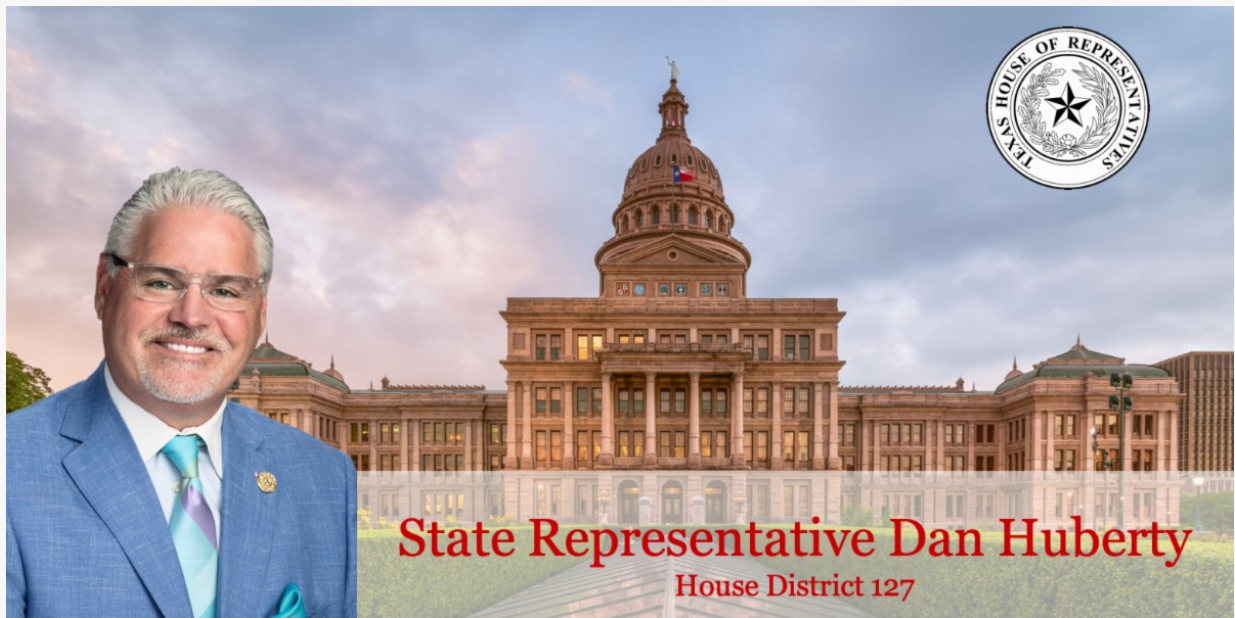


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Thank you for your subscription to Rep. Dan Huberty's Newsletter. If you wish to unsubscribe, please use the SafeUnsubscribe option at the bottom of this email.



March 5, 2021

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly newsletter. Below you will find important federal, state, and local updates from the last week curated for you in one place.

As you may have heard, Governor Abbott announced this week that effective on Wednesday, March 10, Texas businesses are allowed to operate without any COVID-19 related restrictions. In addition, the state-wide mask mandate has been repealed. BUT, individuals are still strongly encouraged to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth whenever maintaining six feet of physical distance is not feasible. Nothing in the Governor's executive order precludes businesses or other establishments from requiring employees or customers to follow COVID mitigation strategies, including requiring the wearing of a face covering.

Additionally, county judges MAY implement COVID mitigation strategies if the hospital region of which they are apart records seven consecutive days in which the number of COVID-19 hospitalized patients exceeds 15 percent of the total hospital capacity. Harris County is apart of Trauma Service Area Q. At the beginning of this week, TSA-Q had around [13 percent](#) of its hospital beds full of COVID patients. The Governor's full executive order can be found [here](#).

In vaccine news, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued a directive stating that states should expand vaccine eligibility to include people who work in school and child care operations, including those who work in pre-primary, primary, and secondary schools. This mean's that teachers across the state should register to receive the vaccine! You can check for vaccine availability [here](#).

Also this week, the House Committee on Public Education met for the first time and heard testimony from Commissioner of Education Mike Morath on the state of education in the state. Next Tuesday, the committee will begin hearing and evaluating proposed bills.

Should you have any questions about the information below, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Sincerely,



87th Legislative Session

Rep. Huberty's Current Legislative Agenda

[HB 767](#) - Relating to best management practices for aggregate production operations.

[HB 805](#) - Relating to certain increases in benefits under the firefighters' relief and retirement fund in certain municipalities.

[HB 827](#) - Relating to the disclosure of vehicle speed information to a law enforcement agency by an entity that operates a toll project.

[HB 900](#) - Relating to the liability of a landlord for damages resulting from the execution of a writ of possession in an eviction suit.

[HB 1147](#) - Relating to military readiness for purposes of the college, career, or military readiness outcomes bonus under the Foundation School Program.

[HB 1428](#) - Relating to procurement by a political subdivision of a contingent fee contract for legal services.

[HB 1603](#) - Relating to the use of individual graduation committees and other alternative methods to satisfy certain public high school graduation requirements.

[HB 1740](#) - Relating to the administration to public school students in certain grades of state-administered assessment instruments.

[HB 2070](#) - Relating to the regulation of sports wagering; requiring an occupational permit; authorizing a fee; imposing a tax; creating criminal offenses; decriminalizing wagering on sports events.

[HB 2525](#) - Relating to the creation of the Lake Houston Dredging and Maintenance District; providing the authority to issue bonds; providing authority to impose assessments and fees.

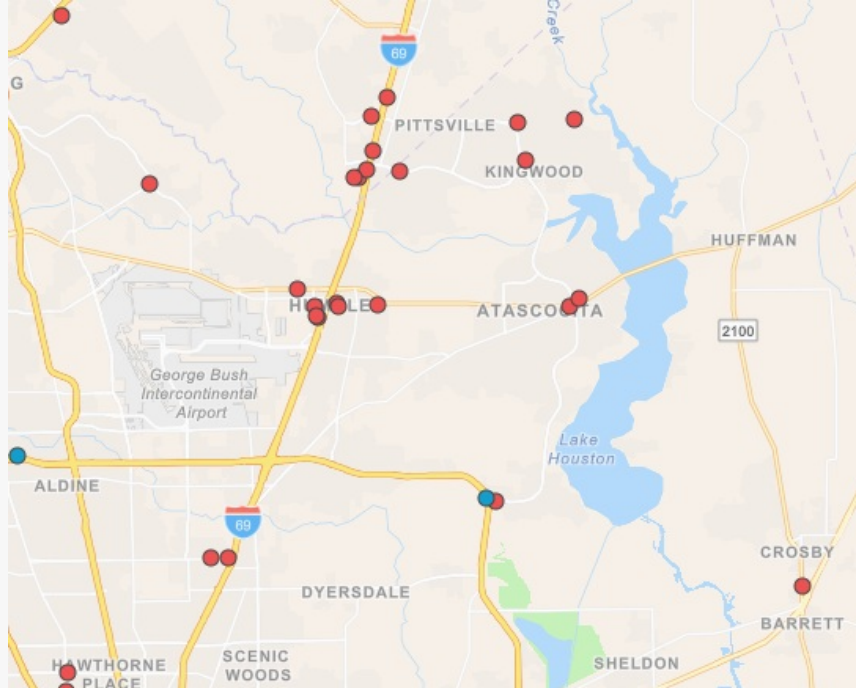
[HJR 97](#) - Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to legalize sports wagering in this state.

Bill Status Hotline

The Legislative Reference Library [introduced](#) a bill status hotline: **877-824-7038** (toll-free in Texas)

State Updates

COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Map



Click the image to view an interactive map

If you would like to register for a COVID-19 vaccine, please click [here](#).

Governor Abbott Lifts Mask Mandate, Opens Texas 100 Percent



Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

Governor Abbott Lifts Mask Mandate, Opens Texas 100 Percent

Governor Greg Abbott today issued an Executive Order (GA-34) lifting the mask mandate in Texas and increasing capacity of all businesses and facilities in the state to 100 percent. The Governor made the announcement at Montelongo's Mexican...

[Read more](#)
gov.texas.gov

Govenor Abbott's Full Executive Order

Executive Order

BY THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department
Austin, Texas
March 2, 2021

EXECUTIVE ORDER GA 34

Relating to the opening of Texas in response to the COVID-19 disaster.

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, in each subsequent month effective through today, I have renewed the disaster declaration for all Texas counties; and

WHEREAS, I have issued executive orders and suspensions of Texas laws in response to COVID-19, aimed at protecting the health and safety of Texans and ensuring an effective response to this disaster; and

WHEREAS, I issued Executive Order GA-08 on March 19, 2020, mandating social-distancing restrictions in accordance with guidelines promulgated by President Donald J. Trump and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and

WHEREAS, I subsequently issued a series of superseding executive orders aiming to achieve the least restrictive means of combating the evolving threat to public health by adjusting social-distancing restrictions while implementing a safe, strategic plan to reopen Texas; and

WHEREAS, under Executive Order GA-32, in effect since October 14, 2020, most establishments have been able to operate up to at least 75 percent of total occupancy, except in some areas with high hospitalizations as defined in that order, where most establishments have been able to operate up to at least 50 percent of total occupancy; and

WHEREAS, I also issued Executive Order GA-29, regarding the use of face coverings to control the spread of COVID-19, and a series of executive orders, most recently GA-31, limiting certain medical surgeries and procedures; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 hospitalizations and the rate of new COVID-19 cases have steadily declined due to the millions of Texans who have voluntarily been vaccinated, many more who are otherwise immune, improved medical treatments for COVID-19 patients, abundant supplies of testing and personal protective equipment, and Texans' adherence to safe practices like social distancing, hand sanitizing, and use of face coverings; and

WHEREAS, in the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the legislature charged the governor with the responsibility "for meeting ... the dangers to the state and people presented by

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
1115 COTTONWOOD
MAR 02 2021

Texas Education Agency Announces Updates to Public Health Guidance



TEA Announces Updates to Public Health Guidance

Under this updated guidance, a public school system's current practices on masks may continue unchanged. Local school boards have full authority to determine their local mask policy.

[Read more](https://tea.texas.gov)
tea.texas.gov

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Could Legalize Sports Gambling in Texas



Texans Urged to Participate in Disaster Assistance Online Survey

Texans are urged to fill out the Texas Division of Emergency Management's [State of Texas Assessment Tool](#) to help state and emergency management officials identify damages that occurred during the recent winter storm. FEMA has asked the state of Texas for additional information regarding the amount of damage in the counties that have yet to be declared, and TDEM will continue to present that information until all Texas counties that qualify for federal assistance receive the assistance they need.

Texans are also encouraged to pass this survey on to family, friends, and organizations who live and operate in counties not currently declared for federal assistance. [Click here to check your county's status.](#)

Texans who live in current disaster-declared counties should apply for disaster assistance at disasterassistance.gov.

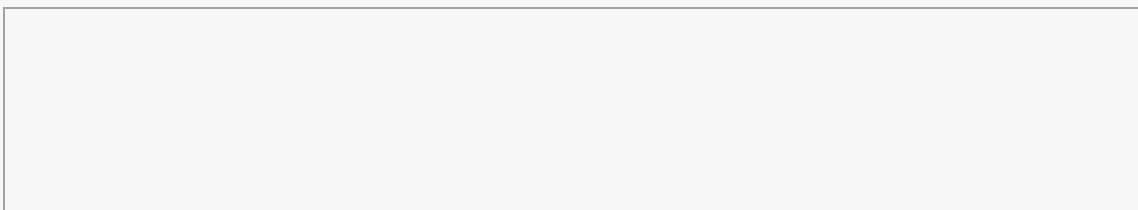
Consumer Protection Alert: Excessive Energy Bills

The Texas Attorney General and his Consumer Protection Division is warning Texans to be aware of energy price hikes and offers tips to protect yourself from excessive and potentially unlawful charges after the recent winter weather storm:

- Turn off autopay on utility bills and review each bill prior to paying.
- If you have trouble reading or understanding your bill, please visit the [Office of Public Utility Counsel](#).
- If you would like to file a complaint with the Office of the Attorney General, visit our online complaint [form](#).

Price-gougers may be required to reimburse consumers and may be held liable for civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation with an additional penalty of up to \$250,000 if the affected consumers are elderly. You can learn more about the consumer complaint process [here](#).

State Leadership Announces Funding For Texas School Systems To Support In-Person Instruction





Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

State Leadership Announces Funding For Texas School...

Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) announced today that the State of Texas will provide a "hold harmless" to Texas school systems for the rest of the 2020-2021 academic school year only.

[Read more](#)
gov.texas.gov

City of Houston & Harris County Updates

Harris County Public Health Dashboard



Harris County
Public Health
Building a Healthy Community

Houston Urges Residents to Report Damages from Severe Winter Storm



CitizensNet

City of Houston Urges Residents to Report Damages from Severe Winter Storm | Informes de daños a la propiedad personal The City of Houston has begun focusing on recovery efforts and is urging residents to report residential damage caused by last...

[Read more](#)
www.houstontx.gov

District 127 Updates

Harris County Flood Control District Acquires Land for Flood Damage Reduction Project for Kingwood



The Harris County Flood Control District and the City of Houston have worked together to acquire a 267.35-acre site formerly owned by Figure Four Partners, Ltd. to provide future stormwater detention to reduce existing flooding risks in the Kingwood area. The site is located in Montgomery County, near Kingwood Park High School.

Register for Walk, Run, Discover Lake Houston

March 1st – March 31st, 2021

- 10k, 5k and Kids 1-mile run
- 30 miles in 30 Days Challenge
- Individuals and Corporate, School, and Community Teams
- Competitive leaderboard for posting times
- Multiple trails and routes for all to explore
- Multiple challenges and competitions

presented by **TACHUS**

WALK RUN DISCOVER LAKE HOUSTON

KIDS RUN FOR FUN SPONSOR

PRIMROSE SCHOOLS

PARTNERSHIP LAKE HOUSTON
more than a member

The Lake Houston 10k/5k is now Walk, Run, Discover Lake Houston! This event runs from **March 1-31**.

Who can participate:

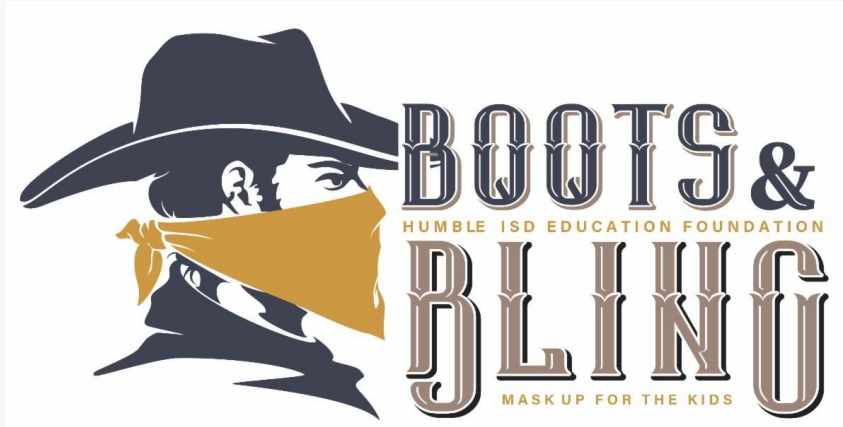
- **Competitive Runners**
- **Corporate Teams**
- **Service Organizations**
- **Students** can participate in the 1-mile Run for Fun, runners to beat their best times
- **Families** to Walk, Run, and Discover new places in the Lake Houston area together

Walk, Run, and Discover the routes as many as you prefer, and upload your times, routes, and photos!

Those who register by **March 8** will receive **guaranteed swag**, including an official shirt, a finisher's medal, and a runner's bib.

Register [here](#)

B&B by Humble ISD



**FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2021 - 6:30 P.M. - STAMPEDE HOUSTON
FOOD, MUSIC, BOOT SCOOTIN', AXE THROWING, BULL RIDING, CORN
HOLE & MORE!**

You are invited to the Humble ISD Education Foundation's first annual Boots & Bling fundraising event. Dust off your boots, add some bling and then join us Friday, April 16, 2021, at Stampede Houston. This event celebrates Humble ISD's educators while raising funds for innovative learning in classrooms across the school district.

Stampede Houston offers many opportunities for fun and safe socializing with two large outdoor patios and a two-story indoor space. Come to the dance floor for some boot-scootin' and if you're not sure what that is - no worries! There will be dance instructors to guide you and you'll be a line dancing pro in no time. On the outdoor patios, you can tap into your competitive spirit with ax throwing, corn hole, and more. And to top off the evening, the top 10 finalists for Humble ISD Teacher of the Year will be brought on stage, and the winner will be announced!

More information, including registration and sponsorship, can be found [here](#)

Contact Information

**State Representative
Dan Huberty**
[Email Dan](#)

**Casey Christman
Chief of Staff**
[Email Casey](#)

**Jack Reed
Legislative Director**
[Email Jack](#)

**Ben Baker-Katz
Legislative Aide**
[Email Ben](#)

Capitol Physical Address:
1100 Congress Avenue, GS.2
Austin, TX 78701

Capitol Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768

Capitol Phone:
(512) 463-0520

Capitol Fax:
(512) 463-1606

District Address:
4501 Magnolia Cove
Suite 201
Kingwood, TX 77345

District Phone:
(281) 360-9410

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